



**Draft Minutes of the
Miracle Mile Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site
Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting – 27th meeting**

June 23, 2005, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Flowing Wells Irrigation District
3901 N. Fairview
Tucson, Arizona 85705

E-II-5240.18.6.1.2

CAB Members Present: Gary Abrams, David Crockett, George Hembree, Manuel Ramirez, Pauline Massie

CAB Members Absent: Netty Buras, Jan Randolph

ADEQ Staff Present: Matt Doolen, Project Manager; SRO; Eileen Palese, Community Involvement Coordinator, SRO

Members of the Public Present: Daniel Debrde, Lynne Hubbard

The meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Co-chair Gary Abrams conducted introductions of the CAB members and public participants.

2. Approval of Minutes for 2/16/05

David Crockett motioned to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2005, meeting; Manuel Ramirez seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the CAB--all in favor; none opposed.

3. Site Investigation Update/Q&A

Matt Doolen informed the CAB that the end of ADEQ's fiscal year occurs at the end of June. He said the work planned for this time period was accomplished with sufficient funds available. He said work was performed at Abrams Airborne Manufacturing and at the former Spring Joint property. He said ADEQ is sampling only two times a year instead of four times to save funds; however, with a history of water quality data from the monitor wells, the less frequent sampling has proven sufficient. He said it appears the WQARF program should be funded in the next fiscal year at a level which will not hamper future work at the site. He said the biggest accomplishment this past year was that all of the work was completed to enable the Remedial Investigation (RI) phase to be completed. He said the completion of the Draft RI report was delayed a year ago to

finish sampling work at Abrams Airborne Manufacturing and at the Spring Joint property. He said they are now collecting information from the water providers in the area for the Land and Water Use Study, a report which is part of the RI. It is necessary to determine future uses of water and the land to include as part of the Remedial Objectives phase. He said that he is contacting the Flowing Wells Irrigation District (FWID), as well as Tucson Water, to request this information. He said he hopes to have the Draft RI report ready for public comment by October 2005.

Matt Doolen outlined what the draft RI will contain. He said after a 90-day comment period, ADEQ will respond to comments from the public. The next stage will be the Remedial Objectives phase which then leads to the Feasibility Study (FS). The FS looks at what needs to be cleaned up and at the options, the costs involved, and how to implement the cleanup. He said next year there will be a lot taking place which will need CAB and community input.

He said David Crockett will address in the following agenda item FWID plans to construct an arsenic treatment system for FWID wells 70 and 75, which are downgradient from the TCE plume. Once an agreement is signed with FWID, ADEQ will provide funding for a volatile organic compound (VOC) treatment component to the system to ensure the water is free of TCE.

Matt Doolen presented the revised plume maps based on the semi-annual sampling round in April. He said the changes to the plumes are slight. He said the most highly contaminated portion of the groundwater by TCE is shrinking. This appears to be the same for the chromium contamination. He said he is not implying that work to clean up the groundwater won't continue in the future, but it is good news to see this decline in concentrations.

He described the results of the TCE in the regional aquifer. He said ADEQ is monitoring approximately 35 to 40 wells in the area. He does not see much movement of the plume, with concentrations declining in all of the monitor wells. He displayed and explained a TCE concentration graph to the CAB. He showed an illustration of the chromium contamination which has always been located in the same area of the site, near ADEQ's IRA-2 and IRA-9 wells. He said the peak for chromium contamination occurred at the same time PCE concentrations peaked.

He said that chromium was found in the soil at the Spring Joint facility where plating work was done. He described the cleanup operations performed by ADEQ. He said an asphalt cap was placed over the soil after the sampling work was completed. This asphalt cap will prevent rainwater from impacting the soil and it was designed so water will not run off to the adjoining properties. The Spring Joint property is now up for sale. He said new property owners will have to be made aware of the chromium contamination because it was not cleaned up. He said ADEQ will continue to monitor the groundwater contamination on this property.

4. Flowing Wells Irrigation District Update

David Crockett, FWID Superintendent, presented information about the plans to construct an arsenic treatment system on two of their production wells to comply with new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards. He said through an agreement with ADEQ, FWID will build a combination arsenic and VOC treatment system; one plant will treat both contaminants. He said the contractors are now finalizing the design and they hope to start building the system in the fall or early winter of 2005. He said that the cleanup method for the arsenic is going to be through iron media; granulated carbon will be used to remove VOC contamination.

Matt Doolen said funds have been set aside in the ADEQ budget for the past two years for this VOC treatment system, and once a firm cost estimate is received from the FWID contractors, the project can move forward.

5. Call to the Public

No one offered comments.

6. CAB Membership Recruitment Discussion

Eileen Palese said that it will be helpful to increase the membership on the CAB now that the remedial investigation is coming to a close. She said that she had offered at the last meeting to send a membership appeal letter to customers of the FWID, with their permission, but she decided to wait to time it to coincide with the release of the draft RI and the comment period. She discussed possible ways to reach interested community members. She said there might also be an opportunity to recruit members during any public meetings associated with the building of the FWID arsenic and VOC treatment system. She said she would have both co-chairs approve any mailing piece before ADEQ sends it out.

The CAB did not believe that the letter needed to be bilingual. She said another idea she proposed was to place a short article in the Arizona Daily Star Neighborhood Briefing column about the CAB with an invitation to join. She said she already received approval from ADEQ's communications department to place the article. She handed out a draft for CAB review. She said that she does list the meetings in the newspaper community calendars. The CAB discussed other possible ways to increase membership and interest in the site.

7. Continuation of CAB Vision Statement Discussion

The CAB co-chairs decided to table this agenda item to the next meeting.

8. Other Administrative Business

No other business was raised.

9. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Discussion

The CAB chose November 10, 2005, but the date was later changed by ADEQ to Thursday, November 17, 2005. The Miracle Mile Community Advisory Board will be held at the Flowing Wells Irrigation District, 3901 N. Fairview, in Tucson, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Call Eileen Palese, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, at (520) 628-6712 for more information.

10. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 7:20 p.m.

This meeting was recorded on cassette tapes as a record of the proceedings. To listen to the tape(s), or for additional documents mentioned in these minutes, contact ADEQ's Southern Regional Office, Community Involvement Office, 520/628-6712.